

DEVASTATORS OF THE WEEK



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The Women's Rugby Team

The rugby team became "The Beast of the East" last weekend. Winning this tournament is just one of the great feats of this team. Since the fall, they have dominated the rugby circuit. As of now, the team is undefeated (19-0). With only one tournament left, the team will most likely complete the season without losing a game.

Women's rugby still undefeated

By SUZANNE SKINNER
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Coming into the Beast of the East Tournament, the Colby women's rugby team was undefeated (14-0). Consequently, the Mules were confident that they would place well in the tournament. However, as they had never faced many of the teams participating, they were not sure if they would be able to win the entire

"We definitely had to step up the defense; that's ultimately what won us the game."
Kathryn Kosuda '02
captain



COURTESY OF ILANA SAXE '05

Defeating Boston University, Plymouth State, Scranton, Western-Washington, and Providence College, Colby women's rugby team won the Div. II Beast of the East Tournament.

thing. "Everybody knew we probably could win it, but we'd never done it before. I didn't really believe we would," said Holly Brewster '02. The Mules played at full throttle throughout the entire tournament and in the end they won the Div. II Beast of the East tournament.

While facing Boston University's B-side and then later Plymouth State, Colby absolutely dominated. There was never any question about who would win those games. Colby immediately scored within the first five minutes of both games. From that moment on, they were unstoppable.

"We were just scoring the whole time," said Brewster. The Mules beat BU 67-0 and Plymouth State 30-0. This momentum carried over to the next day, when the Mules beat Scranton 38-0.

"(The final) two games were definitely tough games," said captain Kathryn Kosuda '02. In the semi-finals, Colby faced Western-Washington. "We were dominating the whole game, but we definitely

had to play defensively," said Brewster.

Colby was the first team to score. Western-Washington spent the rest of game trying to get on the scoreboard. Colby held up many of their tries, denying them the points. In the last play of the game, Western-Washington slipped past Colby's defense and scored one try and then added two points to the original five with a penalty kick. It wasn't enough, however; Colby won the game 8-7.

The finals against Providence College would prove to be even more challenging. "It was a pretty evenly matched game," said Brewster. "Neither team dominated at all." For the majority of the first

half, the ball just went back and forth across the field with neither team scoring. Then, just at the end of the half, the Mules scored the first and only tri of the game.

"We definitely had to step up the defense; that's ultimately what won us the game," said Kosuda. Neither team scored in the second half and Colby became the "Beast of the East" over 23 teams competing in their division. "It was a really good experience for our team," said Brewster.

This tournament marks just one victory in what has been an amazing season for Colby. In the fall, the Mules went undefeated (10-0). Although they lost some of their seniors in the spring season, "the freshmen all really stepped it up,"

said Brewster.

This weekend, the Mules will be playing in the Maine Collegiate Tournament. This is the last tournament of the season; if they win this, they will have gone undefeated for a year. "We hope to win it all," said Kosuda.

"We should take it, but you never know because things can go haywire at the last moment," said Brewster. The Mules have yet to face the University of Maine-Farmington, who advanced to the semi-finals at last week's Beast of the East tournament.

TRACK:

field events strong for both teams

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She is currently sixth on the National list. Right behind her at seventh is McCusker who threw the hammer 160.2 ft at the Aloha Relays. "Its pretty much guaranteed they are going to Nationals," said Aitken.

Michelle Keady '03 did not compete this last weekend, but is already ranked eighth for her throw of 158.9 ft. Captain Claudia Laverde '02 is provisionally qualified for Nationals with a throw of 147.7 ft.

Beal also did well in other events. She placed second in the shot put with a throw of 121.3 ft—only half an inch away from first place. She also finished fourth in the shot put with a throw of 142.4 ft.

Aitken believes Beal could have done even better in the shot put, an event in which she is already qualified for Nationals. All the throwing events took place at the same time, so Beal was literally running from one event to the next. "It was very hectic," said Aitken. Nevertheless, Beal was the highest point-scorer of the meet.

Karimah Ummah '04 also contributed to Colby's placement and qualified for all championship meets except Nationals. Ummah won the heptathlon with 3,505 points. In order to qualify for Nationals she needs 500 more points. "I know she can improve her score," said Aitken. "I think she could be that much better; it's a direction we may be heading in next year."

"We would have liked to have beaten Bowdoin, but I think over all it was a pretty good meet for us," said Pageau. "I really seen us beating Bowdoin next weekend," added McCusker.

The Colby men's track team also set a lot of personal records last weekend. Competing in the Maine State Meet, 13 out of the 26 athletes achieved personal bests.

Xavier Garcia '05 led the pack with 24 points. He placed first in the 400-meter race, first in the triple jump, and was part of the winning 4x100-meter relay.

C. Patrick Harner '05 was part of the 4x100 relay, as well. Also winning the long jump and finishing second in the 100-meter dash, Harner contributed 20.5 points.

Lee Carlson '03 ran the relay and finished second in the 200-meter dash and fourth in the 100-meter dash; he contributed 14.5 points to the Mules' final score.

Captain LeAndrew Rankin, '03 also had an amazing day. He finished second in the hammer throw with a toss of 179.2 ft. This marks a

personal best and he is currently ranked tenth in the country. "I'm pretty excited right now," said Rankin. "I was happy to get a big throw off and I look forward to going to Nationals."

Although as individuals the Mules did well, they did not have enough people to be truly competitive as a team. Bowdoin has 70 people on their team; Bates has 55; Colby only has 26. "Its kind of a numbers game," said coach James Wescott. The Mules do not have enough people to rack up the points needed to win. "Its hard to score points," said Rankin.

Hopefully the smallness of the team will not affect the Mules quite as much this weekend at NESCACs. "In the larger meets, quality takes over," said Wescott. Size doesn't matter as much.

"We've done exceptionally well even with our small number," said Rankin. The Mules hope to finish sixth. "NESCACs is a tough tournament to win," said Rankin. "Everyone wants to go out and have a great meet individually. Hopefully this will translate into sixth place."

The Lady Mules, also, hope to do well at NESCACs. "The NESCAC conference meet is by far the toughest competition. We could be anywhere from third to eighth," said Aitken. "There are no guarantees, people are just going to have to be ready to perform. I think they are so we'll just have to see what happens."

"In the larger meets, quality takes over."
James Wescott
men's track coach

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Colby lacrosse tops USM and Conn. College

By CHRISTINA DOTCHIN
STAFF WRITER

Colby's men's lacrosse team (8-3) finished its week 2-0 as it defeated the University of Southern Maine Huskies (5-6) Thursday afternoon in Gorham and the Connecticut College Camels (3-8) Saturday at home.

"I was glad a lot of guys who don't normally get to play that much got in," said head coach Rob Quinn. "It was good for our younger guys to get more experience. However, I don't feel we played as well as we could have."

The White Mules soared to an early lead over the Huskies, ending the first quarter with a 4-0 lead. As the game continued, the Mules did not let up as they scored five more goals, with the Huskies getting only one, making the score 9-1 at the half.

In the beginning of the second half, the USM defense managed to keep Colby off the board for a few minutes, but that soon changed as the White Mules secured the win with a final score of 16-5. Bill Spencer '02 lead the Mules with four goals and added a pair of assists, while Mike Haimes '04 contributed three goals and an assist.

Barron Butler '03 and Eric Seidel '05 picked up two goals each. Other goal scorers included Matthew Roland '05, Ryan Tyler '04, Conor Cooper '03, Jed McGraw '02, and Trenholm Boggs '02. Pulling through with some big saves for the Mules in net was Matt LaPaglia '04.

"Going into the USM game we knew that they were going to be a weaker opponent and that we were going to try and not play down to their level," said LaPaglia. "During the first half we played to our poten-

tial and were beating USM by 12 goals. During the second half, we kind of fell apart and let up some goals. But that didn't matter because we played so well in the first half."

"Connecticut College is one of those teams who can play well against other good teams," said Quinn. "They happen to have the worst record in the league, but are still a dangerous team."

The White Mules pulled out a big win over the Camels on Saturday. After a tied score of 1-1 in the first quarter, the Mules increased their intensity for the second quarter, as they charged ahead with a score of 5-1 at the end of the first half.

"At half time we gathered all the non-seniors up and reiterated the importance of that game to our season, and to the seniors," said Boggs. "We stressed our responsibility to the

seniors and ourselves to give it everything we had just as the seniors were doing because we should expect that

the field."

In the beginning of the third quarter, the Mules added another goal to keep the lead. The Camels tried to rally and make a comeback by closing the gap at the end of the third quarter with a score of 6-4. However, the Mules finished the game with a score of 9-7. Josh Cleaver '04, Butler, and Spencer each scored two goals each to help lead the Mules to victory.

"I think we still struggled offensively and had trouble closing the door in this game," said Quinn. "We gave up a couple goals first half, and had a lot of penalties in second half, which hurt us as well."

The White Mules have one of their most important games of the year this Wednesday as they face off against their rival Bowdoin Polar Bears at Bowdoin at 4:30 p.m. Colby (8-3) and Bowdoin (8-3) are tied for

second place in the conference. The Mules will play their final game of the season away at Wesleyan on Saturday.

"This is the last week of the regular season," said Quinn. "We are looking for momentum. The Bowdoin game is a huge game with the CBB championship up for grabs. Hopefully we are going to go down there with a mission and make it a memorable game!"

If the team continues to play at the same level, they should do well. "Coach Quinn and assistant coach Danilo Arcenas are passionate, relentless, committed and accountable to making our program be first-class and the best it can be," said Boggs. "Respect, discipline, value and leadership are just a few of the words that I have redefined this year because of this program. They have established a mind-set amongst us that puts the team first."

"Going into the USM game we knew that they were going to be a weaker opponent and that we were going to try and not play down to their level."
-Matt LaPaglia '04
lacrosse player

level of play from everyone. Nobody wanted that game to be our last home game, so we went out there knowing that we had to take care of business on

Swept! Bates puts baseball out of playoff hunt

By JEREMY LITTLE
STAFF WRITER

Colby baseball's hopes of a 2002 NESCAC playoff appearance were dashed over the weekend. The Mules lost all three games in a critical series with NESCAC rival Bates, wiping away any hopes of a playoff spot or a second consecutive CBB title.

The Mules woes began in Orono last week when UMaine pummeled the Mules 20-2, scoring 10 of those runs in the fifth inning alone. "It's really frustrating playing a team like that," said Mules captain Jon Lord '02. "You can really see the difference between DI and D III."

The Mules began their three-game series at Bates on Friday. Bates struck early, batting in two runs in the first inning. Those two runs would prove to be the only ones necessary as the usually explosive Mules offense managed only one run, an RBI single by designated hitter Jay Johnson '03 in the seventh inning.

The Bobcats, however, had already extended their lead in the fifth inning, when Bates catcher Ben Donaldson '02 cranked a grand slam off of Brandon Royce '04 over the left field wall. They won the game 7-1.

"Donaldson's grand slam—it was a close game until right there," said Mules coach Tom Dexter. "It gave them a big lift and a good-sized lead. They played real well after that.

They made no errors. The difference was the big hit and an improved Bates pitching staff with that freshman Kinsman. He kept us off balance. We didn't get a lot of good swings."

"Their pitcher wasn't that good," said Mules' catcher Eric Roy '04. "He threw a lot of good curve balls. He had a good change up, but he never threw it. We're thinking too much when we get up there. We need to go to the plate stupid and swing at the ball."

The series continued on Saturday with a double header at home. While the Mules offense showed signs of life early on, it was ultimately not enough to top a late scoring surge by the Bobcats.

Colby scored first when Lord drove in Kevin Brunelle '03 in the bottom of the first. Bates knotted the score at 1-1 when pitcher Kevin Presbrey '03 walked a hitter with the bases loaded. The Mules took back the lead, scoring five runs in the bottom of the fourth. David Prinstein '02 drove in the Mules' second run with an RBI single, followed by a two-run single by Jared Cushman '05 and a two-run single from captain Matt Simard '02.

Bates responded by scoring five of their own in the top of the fifth inning, putting the score at 6-6. The Bobcats scored the go-ahead run when Rob Maguire '04 homered in the top of the sixth. They won 7-6.

"They got the big hit at the end

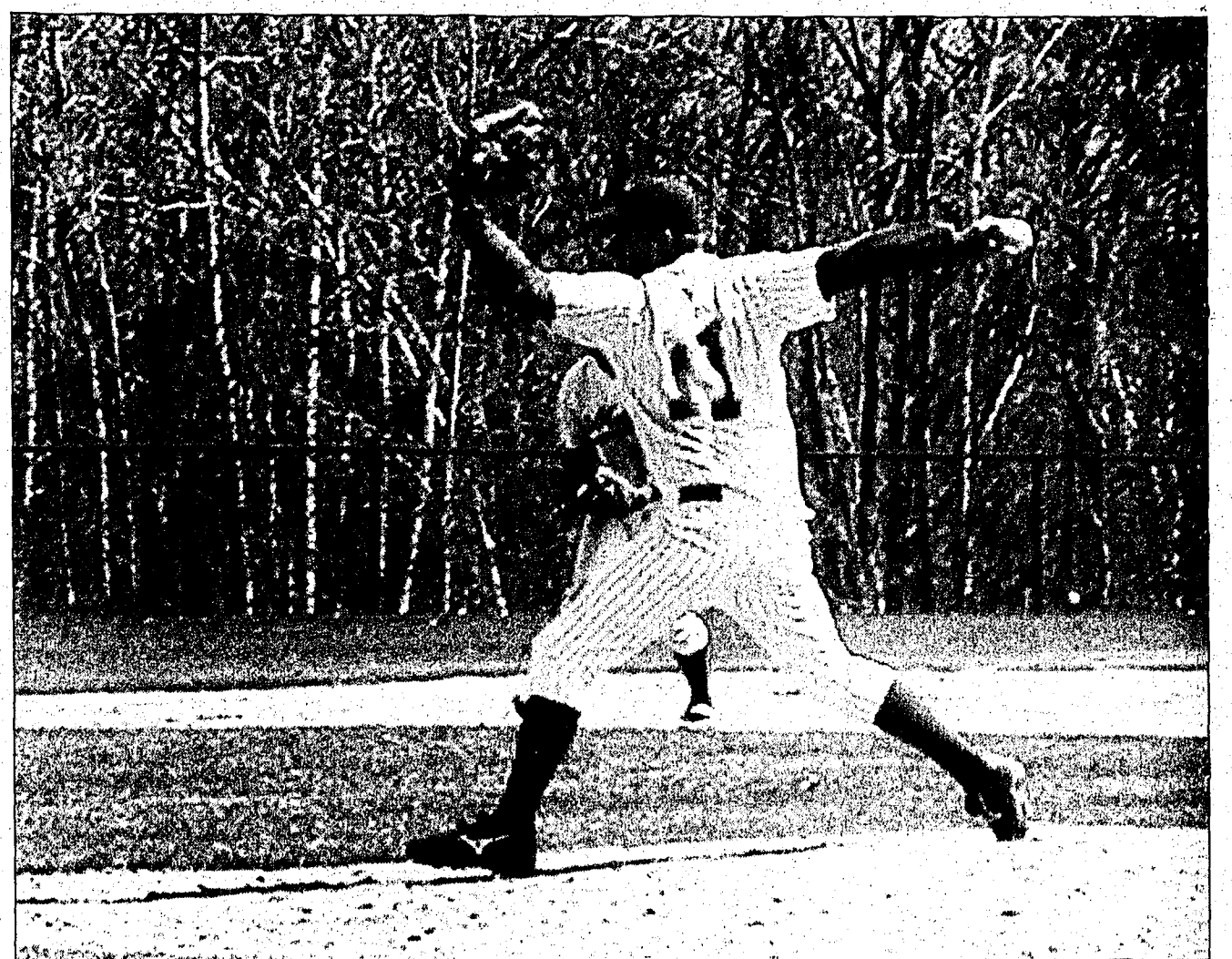
and we didn't," said Dexter. "Their reliever Karz '03 came in at the end and shut us down. It was a disappointing loss. We had the lead and had a chance to win. We didn't get it done. That game squashed our chances right there. Tufts' win over Trinity solidified the top two teams. We would have had to sweep Tufts to get into the post season."

The Mules were again out-gunned in game three, losing 12-6. Colby drew first blood when Brunelle scored on a groundout by Simard. Nevertheless, Bates then scored five runs in the second inning.

Colby managed to even up the score in the bottom of the second, adding four, but then Bates put the game out of reach scoring three runs in the sixth and four more in the seventh. Colby managed only one more run in the bottom of the ninth.

"It basically was a 5-5 game," said Dexter. "It looked like it was going to be a shootout. Then Kinsman came in and shut us out. Our pitching didn't help with nine walks and two hit batters with three different pitchers. We made three errors and only six hits. We just didn't play well in the second half of the game. They extended the lead and we couldn't respond."

"That puts us now in a position where we want to remain focused. Ten out of 12 games are against playoff teams, NESCAC and NCAA. We have a chance to make our mark and



BRAD SEYMOUR/THE COLBY ECHO

Kevin Presbrey '03 pitches the ball. The Mules lost a three game series against the Bates Bobcats.

to finish strong like we did last season. We have a chance to upset some of the better teams in New England.

We're disappointed not making the playoffs, but we can still make a mark upsetting four of the teams

that will be there. Our tough schedule doesn't get any easier."

Talented track teams look to NESCACs

By SUZANNE SKINNER
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

(personal records)." Captain Gayle Pageau '03 led the Mule pack, finishing second over all with a time of 18:57.31. This qualified her for ECACs and Division III New England's.

Both the women's and men's track teams have talented rosters. This fact was especially evident last weekend at the Aloha Relays for women and the Maine State Meet for men. Many athletes achieved personal bests and qualified for various championship meets. The women also had a team success, placing second out of six teams. The men, however, do not have the numbers to be truly competitive and consequently, only finished third out of four teams.

"It was pretty much our field and distance events that really kept us in the high scoring," said women's coach Debra Aitken. Eight out of nine people who ran the 5,000-meter race ran a season or lifetime best. "The biggest thing in track and field is improvement," said captain Meg McCusker '02. "We're all really excited about the

"The biggest thing in track and field is improvement. We're all really excited about the (personal records)."
-Meg McCusker '02
captain

Colby also gained points by having runners in the seventh, ninth, 11th, and 13th positions. "The 5000 went really well," said Aitken.

The Mules also had a lot of success in the other distance events. Jennifer Smyth '02 finished fourth

in the 1500-meter race with a time of 4:55.03. "She was one of our athletes of the week," said Aitken.

Mary Phelps '04 won the 10k with a time of 39:09. She qualified for all the championship meets except for Nationals. Moreover, if she drops her time by one minute, she will be provisionally qualified for that prestigious meet. Aitken believes that Phelps will definitely drop her time. This past weekend was the first time she had ever run the 10k. She averaged between 1:34 and 1:35 for each lap, but "on the last lap she just took it out," said Aitken and ran it at 1:18. If Phelps can harness this power throughout the entire race, she will do much better.

"Our hammer throwers just had an incredible day," said Aitken. Connie Beal '03 set a meet and facility record with a throw of 160.7 ft.

see TRACK continued on page 7

COLBY WINS PRESIDENT'S CUP



BRAD SEYMOUR/THE COLBY ECHO

Both the men's and women's varsity eight boats dominated at last weekend's CBB regatta. The women finished ten seconds faster than both Bates and Bowdoin. The men, sailed past the finish line .99 seconds ahead of second place Bowdoin.

IN THIS ISSUE

Women's Rugby

Women's Rugby won the Beast of the East tournament last weekend. This weekend, they are travelling to Portland to face Bates, Bowdoin, UMaine -Orono and UMaine - Farmington in their last tournament of the year.

Devastator

They're so good we wrote about them twice. Read about women's rugby again!

